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Why Does He Abuse/ Why Does She Stay?

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Abstract

Domestic violence is generally defined as the use or threat of physical, sexual or emotional force by a partner. This research examines when a partner starts to physically or mentally abuse their significant other. Often the abuser assures their victim “they won’t do it again” yet continues to abuse their partner.

Many factors contribute to the reasons a victim stays in an abusive relationship. One of the reasons a victim stays is because they want their partner to change. Although the exact reason as to why an abuser starts to abuse cannot be determined, there are signs in a person’s childhood which have been identified as early indicators for possible abusive behavior in adulthood.

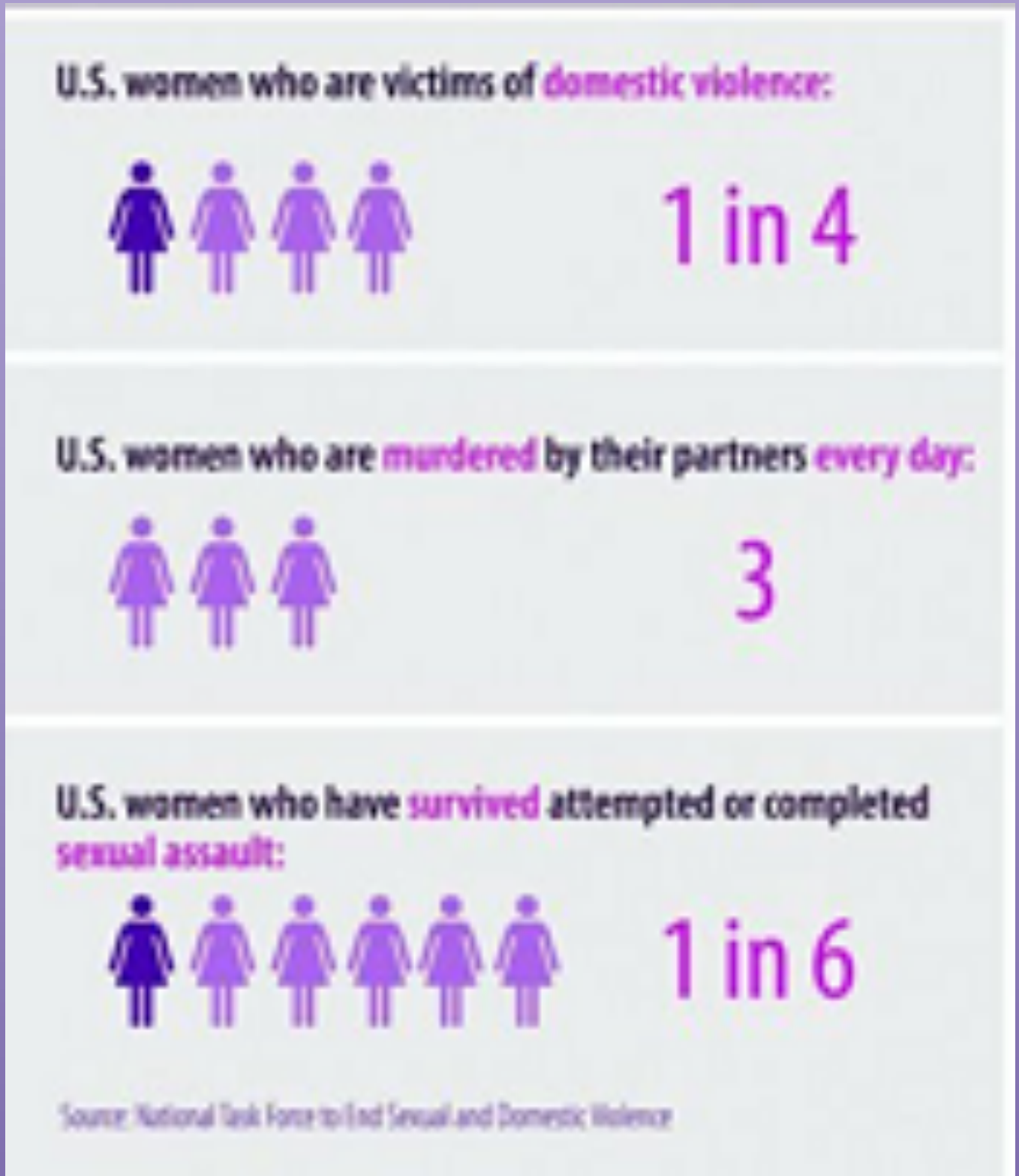
Key Points:

- A person is more likely to abuse if their own parents were abusers themselves, alcoholics or drug users.
- Domestic violence offenders tend to prey on women who have low self-esteem, realizing that the victim will want and need them no matter what they do.
- The control that an abuser gains while harming their significant other makes them feel like they have power
- If children are involved, a victim may not leave because they do not want their children to have a separated parents
- A person might be afraid of what will happen if they leave the relationship or might be afraid of being alone
- Religion may influence them to stay rather than end the relationship in fear of bringing shame upon their family

Conclusion

When love becomes abuse it is no longer love. Instead of shaming or questioning why a person stays, one has to understand that leaving an abusive relationship is not easy.

A healthy relationship consists of mutual respect, trust, honestly, compromise, good communication, problem solving, understanding, and a healthy sexual relationship. Being in an abusive relationship is very dangerous and can affect both the mental and physical well-bring and sometimes even leads to death. With resources such as the National Domestic Violence Hotline, they can help victims find the strength to speak up and leave an abusive relationship.



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